

HITHERTO UNKNOWN GENERA OF SPIDERS, *ORDGARIUS* KEYSERLING, *PASILOBUS* SIMON (ARANEIDAE) AND *STRIGOPLUS* SIMON (THOMISIDAE) FROM EASTERN INDIA¹

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The paper deals with the taxonomy of 3 hitherto unknown genera, *Ordgarius* Keyserling, *Pasilobus* Simon (Araneidae) and *Strigoplus* Simon (Thomisidae) from eastern India. The species *O. hexaspinus* and *S. bilobus* are recognized as new to science, and hence described and illustrated. The genus *Pasilobus* still appears to be monotypic as till date it is known only by *P. kotigeharus* Tikader. All the species are recorded from Buxa Tiger Reserve, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal.

Key words: Spiders, unknown genera, *Ordgarius hexaspinus* n. sp., *Strigoplus bilobus* n. sp., *Pasilobus kotigeharus* Tikader, eastern India, West Bengal, Jalpaiguri, Buxa Tiger Reserve

INTRODUCTION

The present paper reports the hitherto unknown araneid genera, *Ordgarius* Keyserling and *Pasilobus* Simon and a thomisid genus *Strigoplus* Simon from eastern India. The genus *Ordgarius* is known from India by two species only, both of which have so far been recorded from localities in Maharashtra (Tikader 1982). The genus *Pasilobus* is monotypic and known only from the state of Karnataka in India. Both *Ordgarius* and *Pasilobus* have large distributional areas; up to Australia and Japan (Tikader 1982).

Strigoplus so far a monotypic genus, is known in India only from Karnataka. Its distribution ranges from Malaysia, Myanmar to Indonesia (Tikader 1980).

O. hexaspinus and *S. bilobus* are recognized as new and hence described and illustrated. All the 3 species, *O. hexaspinus* n. sp., *P. kotigeharus* Tikader and *S. bilobus* n. sp. are recorded from the Buxa Tiger Reserve, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Collection and preservation of the spider samples were done following Tikader (1987). The materials were studied using a stereozoom binocular microscope, model Zeiss, SV8. All the measurements were made with an eyepiece graticule and are in millimetres.

Family: Araneidae

Ordgarius hexaspinus n. sp. (Figs 1-6)

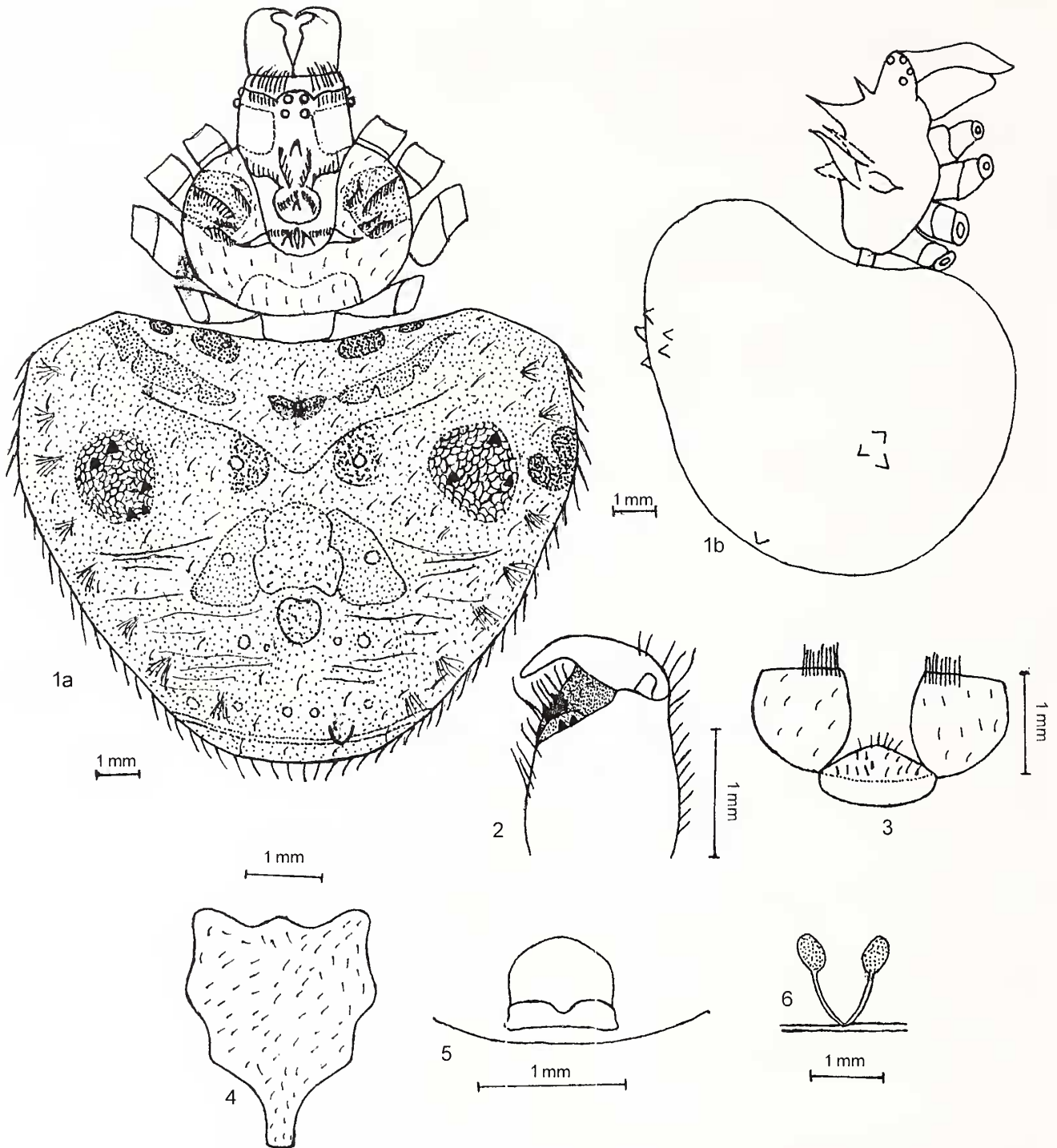
Holotype: Female: Total length 16.28; carapace length 5.64, width 5.43; abdominal length 9.93, width 13.14; legs as in Table 1.

Carapace: Cephalothorax brown, anterior half darker, basally paler; almost as long as wide, narrowing in front, cephalic region squarish, strongly raised; medially armed with an acute horn on a raised tubercle encircled by a brown band, anterior to it a smaller acute horn directed upward-forward, posterior to it two pairs of dark acute horns on a raised area, of these median ones closer, thicker, directed upward-forward, enclosing the dark thoracic longitudinal fovea, lateral ones longer, horizontal. Eyes pale yellow, placed on raised tubercles, both rows recurved, ocular quad wider than long, slightly wider in front than behind, median eyes subequal, lateral eyes close, anterolaterals slightly larger. Clypeus pale yellow, produced. Chelicerae pale yellow, with long hairs, robust, each of inner and outer margins with a pair of teeth, fang brown, strongly curved. Maxillae and labium pale yellow, maxillae broader, robust, apically truncate, inner apical angle scopulate; labium short, transverse, band-like, basally constricted, anteriorly paler, produced, with long hairs. Sternum pale yellow, elongate, posteriorly produced, with long hairs and few spines. Legs pale yellow with brown annulations, clothed with long hairs; leg formula 1243.

Abdomen: Pale brown with whitish patches, broadly 'U' shaped, anteriorly concave, posteriorly round; hairs long

Table 1: Measurements of legs of ♀ Holotype of *Ordgarius hexaspinus* n. sp. (in mm)

Leg	Femur	Patella & Tibia	Metatarsus	Tarsus	Total
I	5.4/5.6	6.8/6.8	4.6/4.8	1.2/1.2	18.0/18.4
II	4.8/4.6	6.4/6.2	3.0/3.0	1.2/1.2	15.4/15.0
III	3.2/3.2	4.4/4.4	3.2/3.0	0.8/0.8	11.6/11.4
IV	4.0/4.2	5.8/5.6	2.4/2.6	0.8/0.8	13.0/13.2



Figs 1-6: *Ordgarius hexaspinus* n. sp.; female holotype

1. Whole body, a) dorsal view, b) lateral view; 2. Chelicerae,
3. Maxillae and labium, 4. Sternum, 5. Epigynum, 6. Internal genitalia

and fine, with bases rather dark; often with marginal tufts of hairs; wider than long, narrowing behind, clothed with fine hairs, anterior half basally with two circular areas submedially, marked by honey comb pattern and few short blunt tubercles, another such tubercle at the posterior end almost medially, below which transversely depressed, marked by a broad brown

band, sigilla in 4 transverse rows. Venter paler, with white honeycomb pattern and numerous brown spots. Epigyne and internal genitalia as in Figs 5 and 6.

Male: Unknown.

Specimens examined: **Holotype**, Female, Rajabhatkhawa, Buxa Tiger Reserve, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal,

Table 2: Differences in characters between *Ordgarius hexaspinus* sp. nov. and *O. sexspinosus*

<i>O. hexaspinus</i> n. sp.	<i>O. sexspinosus</i> (Thorell)
1. Carapace with 6 horns; median one small; anterior most large, single	1. Carapace with 7 horns tubercles; median large; anterior most small, paired
2. Abdomen broadly U-shaped, never overlapping carapace, with anterior margin concave	2. Abdomen V-shaped, overlapping carapace, with anterior margin nearly straight
3. Basal 1/3 of abdominal dorsum with submedian tubercles restricted on a reticulate area	3. Abdominal dorsum with laterally distributed tubercles
4. Abdominal tip round with single tubercle	4. Abdominal tip 'W' shaped with 2 pairs of tubercles
5. Abdominal hair tufts not on tubercles	5. Abdominal hair tufts on tubercles
6. Epigyne and internal genitalia very different	6. —

India, 8.iii.2001, Coll. D. Raychaudhuri [Deposited in the Entomology Laboratory, Department of Zoology, University of Calcutta]. Regn. No. EZC 0001-01.

Paratypes: Nil.

Distribution: INDIA: West Bengal, Jalpaiguri (only known from type locality).

Discussion: The present species *Ordgarius hexaspinus* n. sp. resembles *O. sexspinosus* (Thorell), but yet stands distinct (Table 2).

Etymology: The specific name is derived from the six horns on the carapace.

Pasilobus kotigeharus Tikader

1963 *Pasilobus kotigeharus* Tikader, *Proc. Indian Acad. Sci.* 57(2): 96.

1982 *Pasilobus kotigeharus* Tikader, *Fauna of India, Spiders*. Vol. II, Pt. 1, Araneae: Araneidae Zool. Surv. India, Calcutta: 156-157.

Specimen examined: 1 Female, Rajabhatkhawa, Buxa Tiger Reserve, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal, 8.iii.2001. Coll. S. Saha (Deposited in the Entomology Laboratory, Department of Zoology, University of Calcutta). Regn. No. EZC 0002-01.

Family: Thomisidae

Strigoplus bilobus n. sp. (Figs 7-12)

Holotype: Female: Total length 7.50; carapace length 3.08, width 2.54; abdominal length 4.08, width 3.54; legs as in Table 3.

Carapace: Cephalothorax dark blackish brown with a pale yellow brown area extending from the middle of the carapace, continuing up to the anterior margin of clypeus, almost round, longer than wide, with scarce long acute brown-black hairs, their bases raised, placed marginally, less so medially; rest with short pale brown hairs, with bases rather dark. Eyes brown black with pale basal bands, in two rows, both recurved, lateral eyes on tuberculate bases, anterolaterals largest, posteromedians smallest, ocular quad transversely

rectangular, medially provided with small spatulate black hairs in transverse rows. Clypeus broad, transverse, anterolateral angles bilobed, each with a long acute black hair, anterior margin broadly and deeply concave, with small black spatulate hairs, those in the middle smaller and in rows. Chelicerae pale brown, from the top broad, robust, basally with black spatulate hairs as on the clypeal margin, with a few long acute ones, further forward with fine long hairs, from below darker, devoid of any hair, scopulate near fang base, margins without teeth, fangs golden brown, curved. Maxillae and labium greyish, both anteriorly produced and narrowing, sole-like, surface with short black spatulate hairs, maxillae marginally with few fine hairs, both apically scopulate. Sternum black, heart-shaped, with long hairs as on dorsum. Legs III and IV yellow, black annulations near the apical joints, these whitish on IV; I and II darker with irregular markings/patches, often annular, ventrally black; leg formula 1234.

Abdomen: Dark blackish brown with a few white bands and spots as in Fig. 7, pentagonal, with long brown hairs. Venter dark brown with whitish spots. Epigyne and internal genitalia as in Figs 11 and 12.

Male: Unknown.

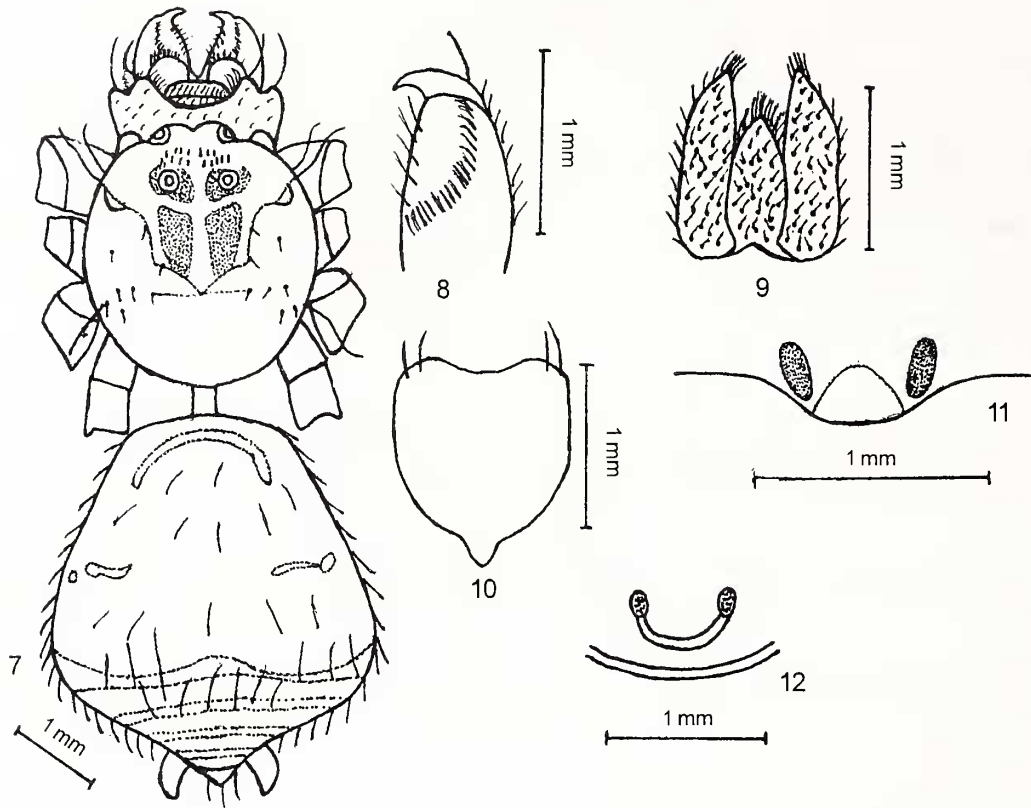
Specimens examined: Holotype, Female, Rajabhatkhawa, Buxa Tiger Reserve, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal, India, 8.iii.2001, Coll. S. Saha (Deposited in the Entomology Laboratory, Department of Zoology, University of Calcutta). Regn. No. EZC 0003-01.

Paratypes: Nil.

Distribution: INDIA: West Bengal, Jalpaiguri (only known from type locality).

Table 3: Measurements of legs of ♀ holotype of *Strigoplus bilobus* n. sp. (in mm)

Leg	Femur	Patella & Tibia	Metatarsus	Tarsus	Total
I	2.6/2.8	3.2/3.2	2.0/2.0	1.6/1.8	9.4/9.8
II	2.6/2.6	3.2/3.4	1.6/1.6	1.6/1.4	9.0/9.0
III	1.4/1.6	2.6/2.6	0.8/0.8	1.2/1.2	6.0/6.2
IV	1.2/1.2	2.0/1.8	0.6/0.6	1.2/1.0	5.0/4.6

Figs 7-12: *Strigoplus bilobus* n. sp., female holotype

7. Whole body, 8. Chelicerae, 9. Maxillae and labium, 10. Sternum, 11. Epigynum, 12. Internal genitalia

Table 4: Differences in characters between *Strigoplus bilobus* sp. nov. and *S. netravati*

<i>Strigoplus bilobus</i> n. sp.	<i>Strigoplus netravati</i> Tikader
1. Clypeus with anterior lateral angles bilobed, each with a long hair at tip, inner margin of inner lobe with long spatulate hairs	1. Clypeus with anterior lateral angles not bilobed and devoid of long hairs
2. Ornamentation of carapace and abdomen much different	2. —
3. Leg I longer than II	3. Leg II longer than I
4. Epigyne and internal genitalia much different	4. —

Discussion: Differences between the proposed new species *Strigoplus bilobus* and *S. netravati* Tikader are given in Table 4.

Etymology: The specific name is derived from the bilobed anterior angles of the clypeus.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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